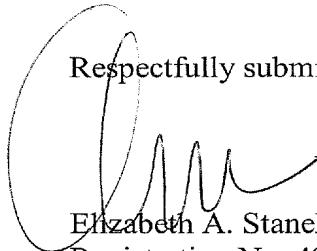


## REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the thorough examination of the present application. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication in the Advisory Action that Claims 9-12, 22 and 25-45 are allowed. *See* Advisory Action, box 7, Claim(s) allowed. Responsive to the "Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review" mailed January 22, 2008, Applicants have cancelled the remaining claims from the present application and, therefore, have placed the present application in condition for allowance. Applicants have amended the present application as set out above to expedite allowance of the present application and, therefore, these amendments should not be construed as Applicants' agreement with any of the statements in the Official Actions issued by the Patent Office.

## CONCLUSION

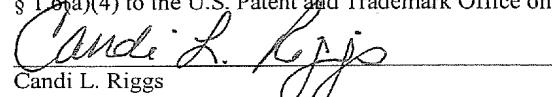
In light of the above discussion, Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance, which action is respectfully requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (919) 854-1400.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Elizabeth A. Stanek  
Registration No. 48,568

**Customer No. 65106**  
Myers Bigel Sibley & Sajovec, P.A.  
P. O. Box 37428  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27627  
Telephone: (919) 854-1400  
Facsimile: (919) 854-1401

## CERTIFICATION OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4) to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 19, 2008.

  
Candi L. Riggs